

TOT: 020031Z MAY 90

SUSPECTED RIGHT WING TERRORIST GROUP WITH APPARENT LINKS TO
RIGHTIST MILITARY OFFICERS. THE MILITARY OFFICERS IDENTIFIED
INCLUDED MAJOR MORAN, WHO SUPPORTED THE ARMED FORCES CAMPAIGN
AGAINST THE LEFT.

E. [REDACTED] MORAN, FORMER HEAD OF THE
NATIONAL GUARD'S INTELLIGENCE UNIT, DIRECTED A "DEATH SQUAD"
FUNDED BY SALVADORAN BUSINESSMAN RICARDO ((SOL)) MESA, A
LONGTIME LOYALIST OF ROBERTO ((D'AUBUSSON)), FOUNDER AND
HONORARY PRESIDENT FOR LIFE OF NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE
(ARENA). [REDACTED] REPORTED SOL MESA AND MORAN USED THIS DEATH
SQUAD TO KILL RODOLFO ((VIERA)), FORMER HEAD OF THE SALVADORAN
AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE (ISTA) AT THE SHERATON HOTEL IN SAN
SALVADOR ON 4 JANUARY 1981. U.S. CITIZENS MIKE ((HAMMER)) AND
MARK ((PEARLMAN)) OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FREE LABOR
DEVELOPMENT (AIRFLD) WERE KILLED BECAUSE THEY HAPPENED TO BE
WITH VIERA AT THE TIME AND BECAUSE THEY SUPPORTED VIERA'S
AGRARIAN REFORM ACTIVITIES. HAMMER AND PEARLMAN APPARENTLY
WERE NOT TARGETS IN THE OWN RIGHT. THIS EVENT IS KNOWN AS
THE SHERATON MURDERS.

[REDACTED] REPORTED IN
MARCH 1983 THAT COLONEL ANTONIO MOLINA, A HIGH-RANKING
SALVADORAN, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF GENERAL ALFREDO
((MOLINA)) PANAHON. MOLINA'S DEATH SQUAD PLANNED AND CARRIED
OUT THE ASSASSINATION OF ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ARNULFO ((ROMERO)) IN
MARCH 1981.

G. [REDACTED] REPORTED DR. NUBIA ROSA AS USING HIS
INFLUENCE IN THE ARMY, WHICH HE CLAIMS WAS MEMBERS OF
RIGHTIST OFFICERS WHO MADE THE PERSONAL GUARD OF THE PRESIDENT.
THESE OFFICERS WERE AT COLONEL MORAN, THEN THE CHIEF OF SECURITY
IN PANAMA.

H. [REDACTED] ON 1 JULY 1981, COLONEL
MORAN, A FORERUNNER OF THE ARMY, WHICH HE LEAD
AND
COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES ENGINEERING CENTER (CIIFA), WAS
ATTEMPTING TO RECRUIT VICTIMS FOR THE DEATH SQUADS TO WORK
FOR HIM AT CIIFIA. ONE OF HIS GUARDED FRIENDS, JOSE ROQUE ((MAYA)),
ROSA, A DEATH SQUAD MEMBER, AND IMPUTATED IN THE SHERATON
MURDER CASE, FOR RESIGNATION FROM HIS POSITION AS CHIEF OF SECURITY
FOR THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND TO ACCEPT A POSITION AT
CIIFIA.

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J. [REDACTED] REPORTED IN MARCH 1984, LT. COLONEL MORAN, COMMANDER OF CLIFIA IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LA PAZ HAD BEEN PRESSURING THE GENERAL POPULATION TO VOTE FOR ARENA. MORAN HAD BEEN GIVING POLITICAL SPEECHES IN TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF HIS COMMAND, URGING THE CITIZENS TO VOTE "ANTI-COMMUNIST." THE ACTIVITIES OF MORAN VIOLATED THE "APOLITICAL POSITION" OF THE ARMED FORCES. [REDACTED]

K. [REDACTED] REPORTED IN MAY 1984 THE INTENTIONS OF THE SALVADORAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOSE NAPOLEON ((DUARTE)) TO REMOVE CERTAIN MILITARY OFFICERS WHICH INCLUDED LT. COLONEL MORAN.

REPORTED ARENA
SECURITY CHIEF REGALADO HAD CONSPIRED WITH ONE OF HIS
SUBORDINATES TO PLAN AND CARRY OUT ASSASSINATIONS OF KEY
LEADERS OF THE SALVADORAN LABOR ORGANIZATION, THE POPULAR
DEMOCRATIC UNION (UPD). REGALADO COUNTED UPON AMMUNITION
RESUPPLY FROM THE TREASURY POLICE, AND ARMY LT. COLONEL HOIC
REGULARLY PROVIDED MILITARY CREDENTIALS FOR USE BY REGALADO'S
PERSONNEL.